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## Judicious Use of Antibiotics Urged

*Senate Resolution 133 sponsored by Sen. Van Woerkom introduced today*

LANSING –Health care professionals and Michigan families are being urged to follow the recommendations issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention regarding the best use of antibiotics, under a resolution sponsored by Sen. Gerald Van Woerkom, R-Norton Shores.

“We are very pleased to have the Legislature’s support on this critical public health issue,” said Dr. Judi Suess, Executive Director of the Michigan Antibiotic Resistance Reduction (MARR) Coalition. “This resolution exemplifies Michigan’s dedication to protecting our antibiotic lifeline.”

Senate Resolution 133 urges Michigan residents and doctors to follow the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommendations on the judicious use of antibiotics.

The resolution recognizes that antibiotics have saved lives for more than 50 years, but the overuse of antibiotics has led to antibiotic resistance that is destroying their effectiveness.

The resolution also urges the Michigan Department of Community Health and the MARR Coalition to increase their efforts to educate Michigan citizens and health care providers on the appropriate use of antibiotics.

“West Michigan families need to know how antibiotics work and when to take them,” Van Woerkom said. “The Senate is not delivering health care advice, we are encouraging residents to ask their health care providers about appropriate use of antibiotics and the serious repercussions of overuse and misuse.”

SR 133 will be now be referred to the Senate Health Policy Committee for consideration.